

Cover photo—Apparently afraid to look, Vincent Guinnane, USCGR, closes his eyes as he receives the proper military haircut at Training Center Cape May back in 1978. Photo by Dale Puckett.

YN1 Nancy Dimond, USCGR, recently served on EAD, assigned to the Chief Counsel's Office (G-LIA). While there, she was designated as Clerk of the Court of the Coast Guard Court of Military Review, quite a distinction for a member of the Reserve.

Among other duties, she was responsible for the docketing of cases, maintaining necessary records, and assisting the judges of the Court.

In addition, she received and examined all pleadings, briefs, and related legal documents filed with the Court to ensure administrative accuracy consistent with the Rules of Practice and Procedure for Courts of Military Review, and was custodian of the Court Seal.

To round off her varied duties in this remarkable job, YN1 Dimond opened and closed all public sessions of the Court.

YN1 Dimond is now stationed at First District headquarters.

Best of luck, Nancy!

The eighth reunion of the World War II crew of the USS Spencer will be held on 24 - 27 September 1981 at the Raddison Ferncroft Hotel and Country Club, Danvers, Mass. 01923. For more information, contact Joseph D'Amico, 77 Bristow St., Saugus, Mass. 01906, Telephone (617) 223-4741.

The 13th Coast Guard District Reserve Intelligence and Law Enforcement Unit was commissioned recently in a ceremony at district headquarters. LT Roy B. Wedlund, USCGR, is the unit's first Commanding Officer.

The unit consists of 20 enlisted members and two officers. The new unit is primarily responsible for training Coast Guard Port Security personnel for mobilization assignments, and support of the Law Enforcement Branch of the 13th District.

By PA3 A. T. Wolf, USCGR

Kenosha, Wis., auxiliarist Winzor MacDade was presented with a Coast Guard Letter of Appreciation at a recent "all hands drill" of CCRU Kenosha.

Mr. MacDade was cited for his voluntary efforts in helping Reserve Unit Kenosha in meeting its mobilization mission.

Mr. MacDade accompanied boat crews to provide area familiarization, and assisted watchstanders by recording search and rescue (SAR) distress information and plotting courses for the boat crews during SAR operations. Mr. MacDade also provided the use of his personal boat in simulated distress situations and spent many hours with boat crews in informal discussions on boating safety.

By PA1 Bruce Nason, USCGR

BMC E. Wahl, USCGR, received Coast Guard Achievement Medal for his exceptional efforts in administering the Third Coast District's Small Guard Training Program as officer in charge during the period 1 July 1978 to 31 May 1980. His unique ability to impart professional expertise to others resulted in 82.7 per cent of the 474 members trained being qualified in the use of the .45 caliber service pistol, 96.6 per cent of the 506 members trained being qualified in the use of the 12 gauge riot shotgun and 95 per cent of the 506 members trained being qualified in the use of the M-16 rifle.

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ADMIRAL J.B. Hayes Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard

REAR ADMIRAL Sidney B. Vaughn, Jr. Chief, Office of Reserve

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Members of the Coast Guard Reserve are invited to submit articles, photographs

are invited to submit articles, photographs and artwork to the editor for possible publication. By-lines will be given.

Inquiries concerning the Coast Guard Reserve should be addressed to:

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CG-288

Admiral's corner

In this issue, I would like to tell you about some of the current

happenings in our Coast Guard Reserve program.

First, the House Armed Services Committee recently authorized us an annual average Selected Reserve strength of 12,000 for FY83. Though a modest increase, I feel it is significant for the Reserve program, as it gets us off the 11,700 ceiling and toward our goal of mobilization readiness. The Committee stated the belief that 15,500 is an appropriate peacetime strength level and made clear that the increase to 12,000 in average strength should be only the first installment in the planned growth of the Coast Guard Selected Reserve. You should, however, be aware that this represents authorization of a manning level only, and that money to recruit and train to this level must still be appropriated.

The Commandant recently approved the dedication of additional full-time active duty resources to the area of mobilization planning. The majority of these billets will be placed at the Headquarters and district level. This is a large step toward achieving a complete and wholly integrated Coast Guard mobilization plan. More on this in future issues of this magazine.

Again in the area of mobilization readiness, we have recently established for the Coast Guard Reserve a requirement for periodic participation in mobilization exercises. Beginning this current fiscal year, district commanders (r) will have a goal of 25 per cent of assigned Selected reservists participating in a MOBEX each year. This will provide both the reservist and his or her active service mobilization site essential experience and information not readily available through any other mode of training. More information can be found in COMDTINST 3060.23 (Mobilization Exercise Program) of 4 May 1981.

All Coast Guard Reserve officers will be interested in some changes being considered for their promotion system. The significance of these changes is that they would allow us to establish Reserve promotion zones independent of the active duty promotion system, giving us a system responsive to Reserve mobilization requirements. This is still in the embryonic stage, but I want you to know it is being considered. The intent of this project is development of a Reserve officer promotion system that will best serve the needs of our Reserve program and the individual Reserve officer.

My final comment is one that is most difficult, because it is always hard to say farewell to someone you have served with for many years. Kear Admiral Olin A. (George) Lively, USCGR, who served most recently as Deputy Commander, LANTAREA, is transferring to inactive status. His service has been a major contribution to the positive direction the Keserve program is taking. Relieving RADM Lively is RADM (selectee) James H. Lipscomb III, USCGR. RADM (selectee) Lipscomb's presence assures us of continued progression in Reserve program management.

SBraugh RADM Sidney B. Vaughn

brief comments

How to get invalidated

Each year, the Coast Guard Reserve advances approximately 200 reservists to E-7, E-8 and E-9.

During the months of January and February, each potential Chief Petty Officer's advancement documentation and service record is reviewed for accuracy and to that the advancement system is working smoothly by producing completely eligible candidates.

In 1980 and this year, the goal has been to effect Chief Petty Officer advancements on 1 March one month earlier than the effective advancement date of previous years. This is advantageous for the prospective Chief Petty Officer.

Unfortunately, this year, as with last year, there were a number of discrepancies in the advancement documentation, which caused delay in the advancements of some candidates to 1 April, and caused disqualification of

Listed below are several problems that did surface this year. They are pointed out so they can be avoided by future candidates. Any one of these can cause a candidate to be invalidated and not advanced.

1. CPO Evaluations -- CPO Evaluations must be performed in a rating-related billet.

2. Practical Factors Sheets (CG 3303C) -- Practical Factors Sheets Sheets must be completely filled out with appropriate initials, dates and supervising officer's All practical factors must be completed prior to recommendation for advancement.

3. Correspondence Courses --Rating correspondence courses must be current (see article this issue).

4. Changes in rating -- Candidates who have completed a change in rating are reminded that there are minimum time in rating requirements for advancement:

E-7 - six months in rating prior to recommendation for advancement

E-8 - four years in new rating prior to participation in

E-9 - six years in new rating prior to participation in

Training Agree-5. Reserve ment -- This form letter must be signed by E-8 and E-9 candidates prior to advancement.

Chapter Seven of the Reserve Administrative Manual (COMDTINST M1001.26) and COMDTNOTE 1418 of 13 May 1981, contain specific details concerning each of the eligibility requirements and more information on the "problem" areas discussed above.

) exam in December

The December 1981 Reserveadministered Warrant Officer Examination will be administered for the following specialties:

Boatswain Aviation Engineering (CCGD7) Naval Engineering

Material Maintenance

Finance and Supply again, candidates encouraged to apply for competition to the Finance and Supply

specialty.

One important change to the application procedure this year is that there will be no requirement for a Commanding Officer's

Evaluation letter. stressed, however, that the Reserve Unit Commanding Officer's comments on the Evaluation for Appointment to Warrant Officer (Form CG-3875) are extremely important and are closely examined by the selection board.

For further details concerning participation in the examination and changes to requirements, refer to COMDINOTE 1417, dated 13 May 1981, as well as Chapter Seven of the Coast Guard Reserve Administrative Manual (COMDTINST M1001.26).

Is your course obsolete?

The Coast Guard Institute is continuously revising correspondence courses. When a new course is issued, the same course with the previous edition number will be assigned an "obsolete date." Your command will receive a letter of notification approximately six months before the course becomes obsolete.

You must complete the course and pass the end-of-course test prior to the obsolete date, or you will be automatically disenrolled when the course becomes obsolete.

Your unit receives a monthly Corresponder from the Coast Guard Institute which also publishes upcoming course obsolete dates.

It is your responsibility to complete a course once you enroll and receive it. If you do not complete a course right away, check periodically with your Training Officer concerning possible obsolete dates.

UAR mistakes cause delays

Reserve Pay Branch is still receiving Unit Attendance Records (UAR, CG-4457) with discrepancies that are causing delays in processing Reserve pay. Personnel preparing UARs are asked to observe the following rules:

1. Only the original pages of the UARs can be accepted from the

2. Drills should be recorded in blue/black ink, not pencil, and should be legible.

3. Write-in's must include the member's social security number, last name and all initials.

4. Any drills over four months old cannot be accepted on the UAR. These should be sent to this office via a Pay Adjustment Authorization (DD-139).

If these rules are followed, Reserve Pay Branch will be better able to process payrolls accurately and efficiently.

SBP changes may affect you

reprinted from the Retiree Newsletter

Senate Bill 91 (S-91), having cleared the House in July 1980, with only minor changes, was signed into Law by the President, and on 9 October 1980, became Public Law 96-402. The new law amends Title 10 U.S. Code, which contains the original Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) legislation as amended.

Some provisions not approved

Four provisions of the original S-91 were \underline{not} approved by the House. As \underline{a} result, these are not a part of the new law:

-- Abolishing the Social Security offset for a surviving spouse with one child

-- Abolishing the Social Security offset for a surviving spouse who receives Social Security earned from the survivor's own employment.

-- Provide SBP annuities to survivors whose military spouses died prior to enactment of SBP in 1972 (see the fourth approved provision below).

-- An open enrollment period

Approved provisions

Although the wait has been long, five changes for the better have been made to SBP, including:

-- SBP annuities will not be offset more than 40 per cent by Social Security entitlement. In most cases, surviving spouses become eligible for their spouse's Social Security earnings at age 62. When that happens, the SBP annuity is reduced by the amount of the deceased's military earnings. The new law provides that a surviving spouse will always receive a minimum of 60 per cent of the SBP annuity regardless of the Social Security entitlement.
-- Recalculations of SBP pre-

-- Recalculations of SBP premiums after Consumer Price Index

(CPI) increases now will be done in the same manner for both military and civil service retirees. In the past, SBP premiums were totally figured for military retirees based on the increased retired pay. For civil service employees, SBP costs were simply increased by the same percentage as was the retired pay. the long haul, a military retiree would pay more for the same level of SBP coverage than did the civil service retiree. Future CPI increases will be figured into military SBP premiums in the same manner as done for civil service.

-- Eliminate the Social Security offset if the only military service performed was for periods of less than 30 days. This provision applies primarily to reservists.

-- Grant SBP annuities to survivors whose spouses died on active duty before September 1972, if the member was retirement eligible. The key here is "retirement eligible." For surviving spouse to be eligible for the SBP annuity under this provision, the deceased spouse must have had at least 20 years active service before the member's death on active duty. will retroactive payments made. Eligible surviving spouses should complete a DD Form 1884, Application for SBP Annuity, and mail it to the Military Pay Center, Retired Pay Branch, with a copy of all documents on hand verify deceased spouse's service and death. Questions on eligibility should be directed to the Retired Affairs Branch via their toll-free number: 1-800-424-7950.

-- Allow suspension of SBP participation for retirees who are rated as 100 per cent disabled by the VA. Retirees rated totally disabled by the VA for a continuous period of ten years or more

(for a service-connected cause), or so rated for a continuous period of not less than five years following the date of discharge or release from active duty, may decide to no longer participate. Later on, if the VA reduces the disability rating, the member can request to be reinstated in SBP. No refund to the member is authorized under the new law, but upon death, a refund of past SBP costs will be made to the surviving spouse.

The last provision listed above is in response to the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) eligibility that the survivors enjoy. Receipt of DIC causes SBP annuities to be offset -- so why pay for both when you can only get one? With the new law, that question no longer needs to be asked. The decision to discontinue SBP participation is an important one, however, as the potential SBP annuity may be higher than DIC. In that case, SBP discontinuance will reduce the ultimate monetary benefits available the to surviving spouse.

Until procedures are established by the Department Defense, the following procedures should be followed by persons desiring to discontinue SBP participation. Submit your request in writing to the Military Pay Center. Your letter should be accompanied by a statement by VA attesting that your 100 per cent rating has been continuous for ten years, or, if less than ten years, not less than five years since your separation from the service. A signed and notarized statement of consent by the beneficiary should also accompany your application.

For more information, call the Retired Affairs toll-free number: 1-800-424-7950.

brief comments

Check the 'currency rule' for advancement

You must have completed a current edition of your rating correspondence course in order to be qualified for advancement.

There is an easy rule of thumb to check to see if you may need to take a more current edition.

If the course completion date of your rating correspondence course is approaching three years or is more than three years old, then it may not be considered "current," and should be compared to the requirements below:

"Reservists who have fulfilled a rating course requirement need not retake a course which has subsequently been revised if they are advanced within three years of the course completion date. However, if reservists fail to advance within three years and a revised edition has been available for at least one year, then

they must complete an updated edition of the course prior to being recommended by the commanding officer."

Most correspondence courses have been revised in the last four years, particularly during 1977 and 1980. Therefore, this requirement is very pertinent to the October 1981 advancement cycle. It's worth your time to double check.

A tribute for Penni and John

This tribute to the memories of ENS Penelope E. Hermans, USCGR, who died in November, and CAPT John Kwekel, USCGR, who died in January, was given during the Navy Section Meeting at the Reserve Officers Association Mid-Winter Conference. We'd like to repeat excerpts from that tribute

I am standing upon the seashore. A ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze and starts for the blue She is an object of beauty and strength and I stand and watch her until at length she hangs like a speck of white cloud where the sea and sky come down to mingle with each other. Then someone at my side says, "There, she's gone."

Gone where? Gone from my sight, that is all. She is just as large in mast and hull and spar as she was when she left my side, and just as able to bear her load of living weight to the place of destination. Her diminished size is in me, not in her; and just at that moment when someone at my side said, "There, she's gone," there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices to take the glad shout, "There, she's coming!" And such is dying.
-- Story Teller's Scrapbook

In all ages mankind has sensed the immortality of his soul and his kinship with God, his Heavenly Father. The psalmist of ancient Israel voiced this thought in an ageless question:

What is man that thou art mindful of him?

And the son of man, that thou visitest him?

For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels,

And has crowned him with glory and honor.

-- Psalms 8:4-5

Others have felt as did the poet Wordsworth when he described it beautifully in his "Ode on Intimations of Immortality":

Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting;

The Soul that rises with us, our life's Star,

Hath elsewhere had its setting, And cometh from afar:

Not in entire forgetfulness, And not in utter nakedness But trailing clouds of glory do we come

From God, who is our home! -- William Wordsworth

(From a tribute by Boyd W. Winterton, Navy Section Chaplain, originally printed in the Officer magazine.)

III they be ready by LCDR Howard Waters, USCGR

Will this Reserve Group be ready if and when the "day" comes? This was the question in CAPT Bennett S. Sparks' mind early in 1980. As Commander of a Group of 250 reservists in the 11th Coast Guard District, it was his job to ensure that the answer to that question was "yes." In just this way the idea was born which became

As with anything worth doing, the exercise did not just happen. "Planning" was the key word. In response to our Group Commander's request, the Group staff officers entered an intensive period of planning. Reserve staff responsibilities were equated to operating command responsibilities. Training became operations; augmentation translated to communications; administration is always administration, but now

added logistics.

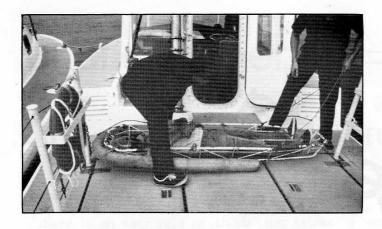
The Group Mobilization Officer was tasked to evaluate the exercise and prepare critical reports. The scope of the simulated mobilization was defined, and tasks, both real and simulated, were identified.

This exercise was to be a working one to the greatest extent possible. While a slight amount of training could be done, specific regular force tasks were to be accomplished. realism would truly measure the Group's ability to report to active duty and promptly function

in a meaningful way.

Coincidental to the Group planning, the 11th District Commander (r) was also re-thinking the entire district mobilization mechanism. A preliminary draft of the new plans for mobilization stations, or "MOBSTAs," was incorporated into the exercise. The scenario which emerged from the many hours of discussions, meetings and planning sessions involved three specific components:

1. Mobilize, through telephone contact, the entire Selected Reserve complement of Reserve



Group MSO Los Angeles/Long Beach's approximately 250 reservists. In addition, contact, by whatever means possible, those Individual Ready reservists assigned to mobilize at MSO IA/LB and gauge their role in a full mobilization.

2. Within the 250 Selected reservists, 58 officers and enlisted personnel would be called to report and, in fact, be processed on to active duty, using the proposed "MOBSTA" organization. Periods of duty would range from one to five days, depending upon the task needs of the exercise.

3. Utilizing activated personnel, perform specified actual tasks during the exercise period. Those tasks were to be designated by the regular command at MSO IA/LB just prior to the start of the exercise.

Tasks were not to be "make work" but necessary jobs required to be done either by the reservists or regular personnel. Also, to ensure effective utilization of time, simulated problem scenarios would be inserted to test the reservists' ability to respond to non-routine situations. These scenarios would remain secondary to the real tasks and used only in such a way as to not him-

der accomplishment of those tasks.

The end result of the planning effort, under the direction of CDR Richard Skok, was the Exercise Operation Order. The OPORDER was promulgated about one month before the planned exercise. However, four months of Group planning had been necessary to produce it.

The order itself was only four pages long, but it was supported by annexes, appendices, tasks and scenario outlines which supplied much of the necessary detailed information. The annexes covered the following important aspects of the exercise: mission concept, administration, logistics, communications, operations, casualty procedures, evaluation and reports.

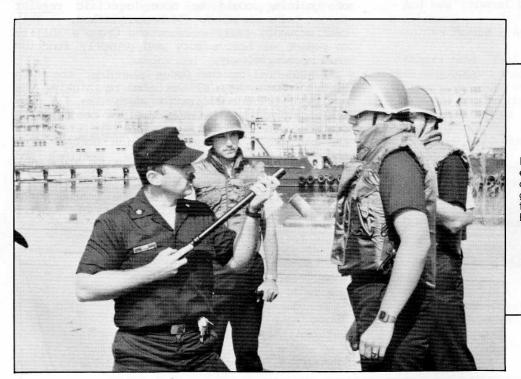
In addition, 18 possible problem "scenarios" had been devised which could be executed as the exercise progressed. These scenarios dealt with a wide range of situations, including boat casualties, search and rescue, medical emergencies, communications, riot control, regulatory matters, radioactive material, international relations and public information.

In total, the OPORDER package contained almost 60 pages of planning, executory and administrative detail to be referred to during the three day exercise.

On the last weekend in September 1980, Reserve Group MSO IA/LB explored the answer to the readiness question in mobilization exercise SOCAL EX80.

On Thursday, CAPT Sparks notified his deputy, CDR Richard Skok, and the word was passed from Group, down through the ranks. Within 24 hours, 84 per cent of the Selected reservists were notified of the call-up drill. Ninety-seven per cent of those contacted could report within 24 hours, if necessary.

Attempts to contact the IRR were not as successful, as the contact was primarily carried out by mail. Clearly more reliable information about



Photos—above and far right: medical evaluations require skill and immediate decisions; left: PSI T.C. Cooper, USCGR, gives riot control instruction as part of the mobilization training in SOCAL EX8O.



IRR members' whereabouts was determined to be needed.

The 58 officers and enlisted reservists were activated. All reported and were processed onto active duty by Reserve administrative personnel under the direction of LT John Williams.

Reservists reported to MSO LA/LB and became duty watchstanders for the duration of the exercise under the Exercise Operations Officer, CDR Al Melendrez. A Command Post was established. and the exercise team assumed the MSO watches.

For the next 40 hours, the activities normally carried on by the regular MSO command were handled by the reservists. Vessel boardings of 17 major commercial vessels were performed. Two vessels were issued detention orders. Seven port facilities were given spot inspections. Three complete harbor patrols of inner and outer Los Angeles and Long Beach harbors were conducted. All required paperwork for the above tasks was completed and forwarded to the regular command for processing. Communications, under the direction of LCDR Bruce Patterson, were handled effectively, and a separate radio net was on guard throughout the exercise in a mobile commun-The task of obtaining vehicle. ications additional portable field communication equipment was solved during the exercise.

In addition to these real tasks, 13 separate scenarios were implemented, primarily under on scene directions of RDC Richard Egemo. PS1 T. C. Cooper, a police instructor in Los Angeles, conducted 28 man-hours of riot control exercises during this period. The mobilized teams were required to deal with organizational, communication, logistical and administrative problems, including accountability of personnel in the field, weapons procurement, shortages of needed radio equipment, berthing, messing and equipment casualties during SOCAL EX80.

An important part of any exercise is the evalu-

ation of the performance of the personnel. It is through this "post mortem" that specific short-comings and deficiencies as well as strengths can be identified and appropriate feedback given to both regular and Reserve commands. This feedback helps improve readiness and refine the ability of the Reserve to merge into the routine of the regular command when actually mobilized.

During the exercise, a team of nine evaluators, under the direction of LCDR Howard Waters, was on hand to observe the reactions and performance of the participants. All these evaluators were senior reservists and included members attached to other Reserve Groups.

The evaluator/observers were concerned with individual technical qualifications to perform duties, effectiveness in accomplishing the tasks, communication during the tasks, logistics and resource management (e.g.: special equipment or appropriate transportation), and the overall effectiveness of each team in dealing with exercise circumstances.

The ultimate benefit of the planning, execution and observation of an exercise such as SOCAL EX80 is the feedback, the interpretation of the results, and the subsequent incorporation of the recommendations into the planning for future exercises -- or for the day when mobilization isn't an exercise. A comprehensive report, backed by documentation, including photographs, was prepared and submitted to CCGD11(r) to accomplish that purpose.

The cycle is thus completed. Those of us directly involved in the exercise have a finer appreciation for our roles in the overall scheme of things. And there are side benefits, too: higher morale, a sense of accomplishment, and the satisfaction of knowing we can make a meaningful contribution to the Reserve program,

and, ultimately, to our country.



Reflections (One year later)

story and photos by LCDR M. E. Rettenmaier, USCGR

Ah! Sea duty! For this "desk jockey," the chance of going to sea, even briefly, seemed remote. But, thanks to the Junior Officer Afloat Training Program, I, then LT M. E. Rettenmaier, USCGR, an RPA, wound up on the USCGC Vigorous for a 35-day patrol of the Florida Straits during the Cuban Sealift -- all on two days' notice.

Sitting calmly at my desk on 8 July 1980, I never thought I'd be at sea less than 48 hours later. But don't fool yourself. Headquarters personnel <u>are</u> speedy at times. So, with inter-office cooperation, a quick set of orders was cut, and my supervisor handed me a Professional Qualification Standards (PQS) book on my way out the door the evening of 9 July. I was at sea the evening of 10 July -- and in a fog (in more ways than one).

Vigorous is home ported in New London, Conn. As she sailed out the Thames River, the ship ran into fog -- thick fog. That was only the be-

ginning of a real adventure.

I had been assigned to the watch list for OODs (under instruction). Never having been on one of the cutters in this capacity, it was more than a worthwhile experience. I would also spend a week with the "snipes" down in the engine room.

I found that, at sea, one day runs into another. There are no "weekends." We wound up in Miami to refuel for four hours. Then it was off to our patrol station, 15 miles off the Cuban coast. For several days we would be escorting vessels with Cuban refugees from Cuban waters to the United States.

Our first day was fairly routine. One refugee boat was brought from Mariel, escorted by Cuban gun boats. I found it spooky having those two gray vessels encircling us while we sent out a small boat, with our corpsman, to check the refugees for illness. The gun boat skippers were talking -- to whom we never found out. Even our interpreters couldn't translate. We escorted the refugee boat to Key West.

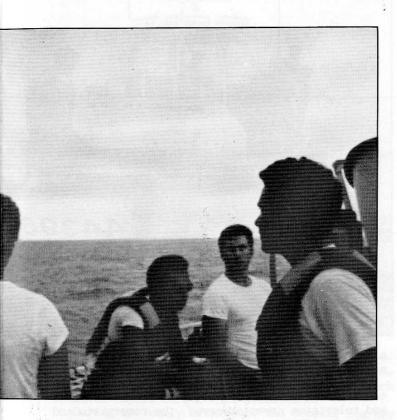
Our second day seemed dull. By 0900 we still hadn't seen a Cuban boat. (They'd been arriving at 0600 for days.) All of a sudden things







Photos—far left: the national ensign takes on added significance as Vigorous enters Key West to disembark Cuban refugees; center left: refugees mingle on the fantail; below left: sunset at sea, bringing calm to a hectic day; **Vigorous** crewmen observe typically stormy tropical weather-Hurricane Allen is two days



started happening. Before the day's end we had 205 Cubans onboard Vigorous from two sinking vessels, the Meow and the Inspector II.

We set up the Wardroom as a Sick Bay, since, once the refugees started coming onboard, it became obvious that they had had bad water and many were ill.

The HM was very busy. I struck for nurse. (In that situation, and some following, I found myself gravitating to where I felt I could assist the command the most.) By 0600 the following morning some of the refugees were calling me "doctor" (a title I informed them I did not hold, but "thanks for the faith").

We had a bit of excitement that night, including a small boat crashing from its falls in severe thunderstorms, so the next morning, upon ar-

rival at Key West, we all breathed much more easily as we ticked off each refugee -- one by one -- and still came up with 205! My high school Spanish came in handy for explaining things, calming anxious passengers, and finally saying "IVaya con Dios!"

Adventures continued. We had a high-speed San Francisco street chase in the Florida Straits. The chase consisted of the Point Wells, Vigorous, and a south-bound cabin cruiser, which refused to stop and wound up ramming both cutters. It was

eventually detained.

The day we were to pull into Key West for a two day liberty (Ah, happiness!), we got in -- and four hours later we were escorting the cutter Diligence out of Key West to a safer port. Hurricane Allen was on the way. My 1600-2000 watch was choppy, but later that night the QMOW logged 40-foot seas. From the sound and feel of it, those seas must have been that big. I held myself in my top bunk so I wouldn't wind up on the deck.

The next day found five Coast Guard cutters in formation. (I wonder how often that has happened before.) It gave us experience with formation procedures.

A SAR case called us from formation 30 seconds prior to our scheduled departure to our liberty

port. Oh, well....

We did get to port. We spent one and a half lovely days in Ft. Lauderdale. The Coast Guard Base personnel there were super, assisting in arrangements for a ship's picnic.

The Vigorous crew made me feel right at home through all this and other events, such as patrolling the Cay Sal Banks, swim call, boardings of south-bounders, and other shipboard experiences.

I'm now back at my desk, trying to keep it afloat. However, I figure if there's anything to reincarnation, I must have been a sea-going sailor.

If you're interested in sea duty, for even a short period of time, ask about it. Go for it. Perhaps one of our cutters could use your talents. One never knows....

Operation Humboldt Bay

by PA1 Marshall Berman, USCGR

The bottom paragraph of the Operations Order closely paralleled a dramatic moment in a war pulp I had read as a youngster: "It is anticipated that attempts at infiltration will be made and that an attempt will be made to destroy vital installations, such as communications, supplies, boats, buildings, and small boat docks."

During a time of war, this would be enough to curdle one's blood. But all was under control, as the graphic account was merely referring to a carefully staged mobilization and training exercise to be conducted by Humboldt Bay Coast Guard reservists off California's northern coast.

During the weekend drills, reservists teamed up with the regular Coast Guard, the Humboldt Bay Sheriffs' Marine Posse, the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Crowley Environmental Service, COTP Humboldt Bay, local Sea Scouts, and the California National Guard, for exercises aimed at mobilization training, protecting the environment, and saving lives.

A small room at the Coast Guard station was set up as the communications and security center to monitor all weekend activities on a 24-hour basis. A team of sentries was dispatched to the perimeter and entrance of the station to act as security against possible infiltration and sabotage by the National Guard, acting as the invaders. Color-coded arm bands were distributed to observers and team members during the early morning briefing conducted by on-scene commander, CDR John Grippi, USCGR. Participants were dispatched to their various posts, and the two-day drill began.

For purposes of realism, a fire was set aboard a small boat. The occupant, a reservist, jumped overboard into the chilly waters of Humboldt Bay. This became the first call of the day. Within minutes, a 44-foot patrol boat was underway with



a Reserve team aboard that executed the rescue and extinguished the fire with precision.

Later, wood chips were scattered about the Bay to simulate an oil spill. As local residents and television crews observed, the reservists and the Marine Posse contained the spill with 200 feet of boom and demonstrated clean-up operations in conjunction with one another.

"This type of drill was exceedingly important, since off-shore oil operations are currently being mapped out in Humboldt Bay," said team leader

Photo—Humboldt Bay reservists utilize shipboard pumps to dewater a disabled vessel. Photo by PA1 Jerry Snyder, USCG.

LT Donald Dutton, USCGR. "Furthermore, reservists and regular Coast Guard personnel are able to work together toward common goals and know what to expect during real situations."

During the early afternoon, the coastal fog was pierced by a handsomely striped Coast Guard HH-52A helicopter, piloted by LCDR John Young, USCG. The chopper, hovering over a 44-foot Coast Guard boat manned by reservists, repeatedly lowered and hoisted its rescue basket to and from the boat. The successful practice series of air/

sea rescues served as a demonstration of mission capabilities between the regular and Reserve Coast Guard.

Upon completion of the air/sea drills, the reservists in the communications center instructed LCDR Young to conduct an air search for National Guard troops believed to have landed on the beach bordering the Coast Guard station. The results were negative, but the moment took on a tense feeling as the sun set and the reservists braced for the inevitable attack.

True to their word but at an unheard of hour, the 570th Engineer Battalion of the Army National Guard cooperated by invading Coast Guard territory at four a.m. Sunday morning.

"The object of this exercise was to test and practice Coast Guard radio communication systems and port security operations," noted LT Dutton. The results were highly favorable, with the communication system maintaining complete capacity throughout the invasion. Despite their command of 10,000 rounds of blank ammunition and a supply of mock bombs, the National Guard never detected the Coast Guard communications room, which operated in a black-out capacity.

"The most functional component of the drills was our communications system, which coordinated all events and kept abreast of all occurences," said Dutton. "One of the most beneficial points of the drills was that we were able to create stress-type situations for the reservists to act upon."

CDR Grippi summed up the weekend on a high note. "I think that everything fell into place and people felt very comfortable in each situation," he observed. "We had outstanding communications and boating operations. The weekend on a whole demonstrated a closeness between the regular Coast Guard and the Reserve."

A matter of routine routine routine

story and photos by PA1 Dick Wehn, USCG

In this mass-produced age of look-alike cars, subdivisions crammed full of identical houses and people struggling to imitate their friends and neighbors, it's refreshing to encounter something so different that it is set apart from everything

Such is the case with Coast Guard Reserve Unit -Coast Guard Headquarters (G-OFP). The members of this unit augment Flag Plot, the National Response Center (NRC), and the Telecommunications Center, all functions of Coast Guard Headquarters, from which they derive their uniqueness. In all the Coast Guard Reserve, there is no other unit that

handles their particular job. This special group of 18 men and women take a lot of pride in their work, and rightly so. As the commanding officer, CAPT J. N. Shrader says, "This unit is the most highly visible Reserve unit in the Coast Guard. Senior officers that frequent Coast Guard Headquarters observe our people on a regular basis and they derive their picture of the 'typical' reservist from what they

CAPT Shrader adds, "Excellence is demanded as a matter of routine, and because of their mature, responsible attitudes, the reservists in this unit have proven to be an excellent, capable resource. It all adds up to the most challenging and satisfying job I've had in the Coast Guard Reserve.'

"Excellence is demanded as a matter of routine...

You can call it Flag Plot, or you can call it the Commandant's Operations Center. You might even call it the Rescue Coordination Center for the entire Coast Guard. Actually, it's all of these and more.

ET1 Jim Knights, USCGR, a qualified Assistant Duty Officer for Flag Plot, feels that his education (Master's Degree) in International Relations has helped on numerous occasions. Says Jim, "When we're working on a drug seizure involving a foreign vessel, tact and patience become most valuable qualities. I find that my background in International Relations lends added insight to my work."

The members of Flag Plot have the unique position of monitoring the pulse of the entire Coast Guard. During the Cuban Crisis this overview became very apparent as units from all over the country converged on the Florida Keys. Plot shifted into high gear, and thousands of "Coasties," regular and Reserve, joined in one of the largest humanitarian efforts ever attempted.

So many people were diverted that Key West took on the appearance of an additional district. Communications in both Spanish and English became frantic as the situation heated up politically. In the midst of it all, Flag Plot had to sift out pertinent details so that the Commandant and senior flag officers could be kept abreast of the situation.

Through it all, level heads prevailed, and the operation has been heralded by many as "...an unbelievable success."

Reservist YN1 Ed Duffy, a group sales representative for Banker's Life Insurance Society, recently became the first enlisted man to become fully qualified as Assistant Duty Officer for the National Response Center, co-located in Flag Plot. "In this job I can contribute more than anywhere I've been so far," says Ed. "Because of that, I enjoy this job most of all my past assignments."

The National Response Center, a function of the Marine Environmental Protection Division of Coast Guard Headquarters, coordinates pollution response of a national level and disseminates information to all interested national response team members on specific major or special inter-

est pollution cases.

NRC receives inquiries on compliance of foreign

Photos-right: YN1 Ed Duffey, USCGR, locates the scene of a hazardous chemical spill, as information flows into NRC from MSO personnel. An extensive library assists personnel at NRC in dealing with spills efficiently; below: ET1 Jim Knights, USCGR, scans a Flag Plot case file, sorting out pertinent data for review by the Commandant and senior flag officers.

tankers with pollution regulations and they maintain a file of reported hazardous substance spills. A library of technical data is maintained in NRC for rapid response to personnel at the scene of hazardous spills. NRC personnel also provide backup for Flag Plot watch officers and vice versa.

Instrumental to the effective operation of Flag Plot and NRC is the Telecommunications Center, located adjacent to the Flag Plot spaces. KM1 John Marshall has been augmenting the Comm Center since 1976, when Flag Plot was formed.

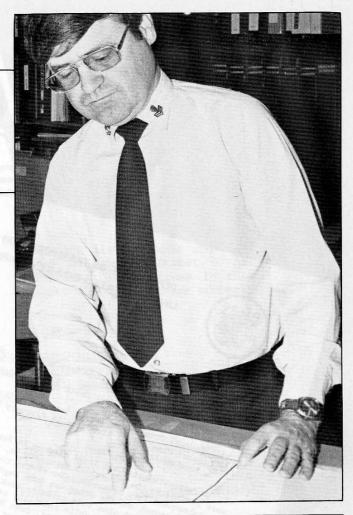
In this job, I can contribute more than anywhere I've been so far."

John, a procurement analyst for the Department of the Navy, notes, "We have billets for nine radiomen in this unit, and right now we have two RM's on board. Any interested RM1 or RMC should contact Coast Guard Reserve Unit, Washington, D.C., for an interview."

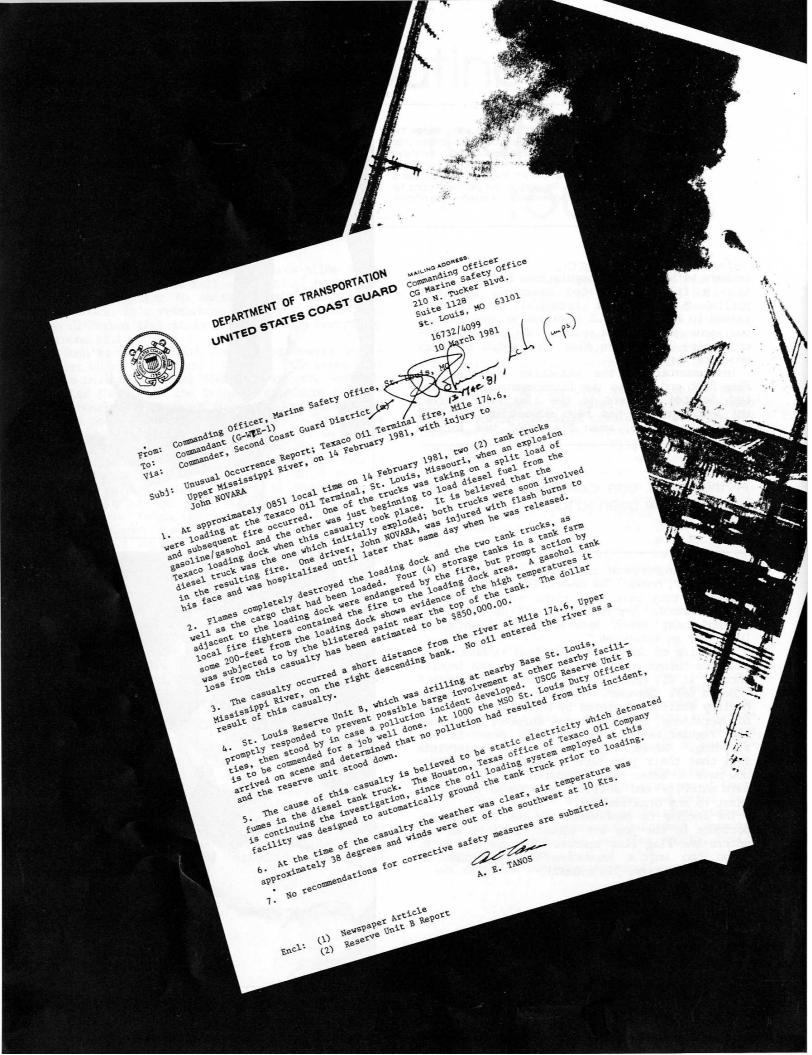
According to John, "The workload is hectic and at times things get pretty tense, but the importance of it all makes this job really worthwhile."

Notes CAPT Shrader, "Largely because of the healthy attitude fostered by RADM Costello, Chief of Operations, and CAPT Garbe, Chief of Flag Plot, the regular/Reserve relationship here is out-Since augmentation, the reservists standing. feel that their jobs have definite meaning. They now have a sense of direction. That, coupled with maturity and ability make these people an asset to any organization.'

The feeling of confidence and the sense of importance in the job are almost tangible as one enters the Flag Plot spaces. Perhaps CDR R. R. Caron, the unit's Executive Officer, puts it best when he says, "It's neat!"







Unusual occurrence report

Texaco Oil Terminal Fire

Three teams from U.S. Coast Guard Reserve Unit St. Louis Unit B, were involved in this response. For ease of reporting, they are listed below and each team assigned a number. All references to the teams in this report will be by these numbers.

Team 1

Team 2

Team 3

PSCM Grant PSC Fithen MK1 Buford PS2 O'Grady PS2 Loveland

PS2 Miller PS2 McCracken

PS3 Meyer BM3 Besancenez

0850 -- Team 1 sighted dark, black smoke rising from the area of the Texaco facility and proceeded to the area.

0900 -- Team 1 arrived at the scene, ascertained that the fire was at the Texaco truck loading dock, and proceeded to J. D. Street facility to the north of the Texaco facility to establish a communication post.

0905 -- Team 1 arrived at J. D. Street facility and established a telephone watch. PSC Fithen remained at this location and PSCM Grant and MK1 Buford proceeded back to the scene of the fire.

0907 -- Team 3 arrived at J. D. Street facility. Team 3 was sent to check on barges in and around the location.

0910 -- The Reserve radio watch at MSO St. Louis was contacted and told to contact the MSO duty petty officer, have Team 2 report to scene, and call CDR Tanos and report the situation.

0913 -- Contact with U.S. Coast Guard Reserve office was made and LTJG Sigman was alerted to the fire. 0925 -- Team 3 returned and reported that no barges were in the immediate area, but that there were two barges at Reiddy Terminal.

0930 -- Team 3 sent to Reiddy Terminal to see what product was on barges. LTJG Sigman arrived on scene. Contact was made with both the police and fire official in charge of the fire by Team 1.

0940 -- Team 2 arrived at scene.

0945 -- Fire appears extinguished. LTJG Sigman and Team 1 checked waterfront for pollution. Noted slight sheen from Texaco outfall and determined that it could be contained due to river

1000 -- MSO personnel arrived on scene. Teams 1 and 2 relayed information to them.

1015 -- LTJG Sigman returned to Base St. Louis. Team 1 secured at fire site. Team 2 relieved by MSO personnel and sent to Reiddy to obtain information on barges.

1020 -- Telephone watch secured. Team 2 resumed normal patrol.

Kudos to CGRU Cincinnati

by LCDR Charles Bell, USCGR

CGRU Cincinnati has been named the winner of the ROA Congressional Award for FY 80.

This unit emerges from the past fiscal year with an impressive list of accomplishments in the fields of readiness, augmentacommunity services. tion, and These programs have resulted in a Reserve unit strengthened in its sense of mission.

Certain programs have been developed within the past few years which have been the mainstay of the daily, weekly and monthly operations of the unit. For example:

Units Augmented Program COTP, Cincin. Port Security Security Patrol MSO, Cincin. Weekend Watch/

MSO, Radio/ Office MSO, Cincin. AtoN CGC Chippewa ANFAC Owensboro, Ky. BOSTEAM II, Boating Ops St. Louis

Bridge Light AtoN CCGD2, Inspections St. Louis

Annual Bridge CCGD2, St. L. Inspection Recruiting and PA CRUITOFF. Cincin.

These programs and the units augmented are excellent examples of the evolving type of programs which are being continually refined and adjusted by the unit in response to changing demands placed upon it.

The most exciting and rewarding accomplishment for personnel at the unit has been the co-location of CGRU Cincinnati personnel with the personnel of MSO and DIRAUX Cincinnati at a new riverfront facility, specifically designed for accommodation of the three

CGRU Cincinnati was in on the first line decision-making to determine the size and location of its spaces within the building. The cooperation shown in this special project reflects the mutual high esteem the commands hold toward each other.

Prior to the new location, only knowledge of

river, while the rest of the unit, at a drilling site several miles inland, could not fully appreciate the augmentation mission performed by the boat crews.

Now, all members have experienced the totality of the operation, from the "paperwash to the propeller."

Morale has been affected positively. Even several ex-unit Reserve petty officers, who had declined reenlistment in the past few years, are now seeking reaffiliation, based primarily on the "hands on" river training, as opposed to the limited training at the previous unit location.

The amalgamation, not only of personnel, but also of the physical equipment, has produced a singular spirit of highly motivated, mission-conscious reservists. Their interface with active duty personnel contributes to the efficiency of regular Coast Guard missions through augmentation, and at the same time, sharpens the readiness posture of the unit itself.

Officers and petty officers now guard numerous radio frequencies in conjunction with Group Ohio River. Reserve personnel note and record river levels at both ends of the unit's area of reponsibility, and maintain communication with industry barges and other river traffic to determine any noted irregularities on the river or of malfunctioning or missing aids to navigation. This enables unit work crews to respond immediately to problem

Moreover, public access to the building is now possible seven days a week, which reflects favorably on Coast Guard responsiveness.

In addition to the customary expectations in training requirements, OGRU Cincinnati has taken the initiative in establishing inter-service training, notably with the Batavia Unit, Ohio National Guard Division, U.S. Army.

Recently, National Guardsmen provided unit personnel firearms the unit boat crews achieved a training at the unit. In addithe tion, ten selected unit reserv-

small arms ists were given qualification instruction and firing at Ft. Knox, Ky., on a non-scheduled drill weekend (at no cost to the Coast Guard).

CGRU Cincinnati reservists reciprocated by giving Army reservists "hands on" instruction in small boat operations. The inter-service cooperation was so successful that future training sessions are already in planning.

Training contacts have been made with the Advance Base Functional Component, U.S. Navy Reserve, Dayton, Ohio. In this instance, small boat training by CGRU Cincinnati will be provided in exchange for Damage Control training by the Naval Reserve Unit, along with mock infiltration exercises pertaining port security.

Community service activities this year ranged from parade participation, safety instruction for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, and small boat instruction, to to the Leukemia donations Society, blood bank and burns hospital.

additional accomplishment worthy of merit was the blood donarship by several unit members for a fellow reservist who was severely injured while in a civilian status awaiting transfer to his initial training at Cape May. The reservist, SR Michael Condon, was not known, nor had he ever met any of the Coast Guardsmen who assisted in repaying the nine pints of blood he needed.

These have been the accomplishments of CGRU Cincinnati during the past year. Those accomplishments of a tangible nature have been easily quantifiable by the unit's reporting statistics. What is abundantly more difficult to quantify and document is the level of personal growth which most, if not all, members of this Reserve unit have developed in implementing augmentation programs, unit readiness and community involvement.

Congratulations, CGRU Cincinnati. Well done!

opportunities

Senior EMs needed for EAD

A critical shortage of midgrade petty officers on active duty exists in the EM rating. The shortages felt previously at EM1 and EM2 are beginning to be felt at the EMC level.

In response to this need, the EMC rate has been added to the open rate listing for prior service personnel. The invitation is now extended to Reserve personnel serving as EMs in pay grades E-7 through E-9 to respond to this

critical active duty need.

Applicants in pay grades E-7 through E-9 interested in the challenge of an active duty assignment may contact the EM detailer, CWO Gerhauser, at 202-426-4735 to discuss their potential service and the assignment for which they may be considered.

Availability for unrestricted world-wide assignment is a requirement. Those meeting the one year sea duty for advancement requirement in Article 5-C-14, Personnel Manual, and having extensive electrical backgrounds will have the best opportunity for selection.

Applicants should not assume an automatic acceptance, since the level of response to both the change in the open rate list and this solicitation cannot be accurately estimated at this time.

YN or any rate with typing ability as support in Publications and Directives Branch of Medical Administration Division, HQ, 13 July for 120 days.

One DP, E-4 to E-7, with experience in operating computers to support OMEGA Navigation System Operations Detail, HQ, ASAP for 60 days (shorter periods may be considered).

Two persons, E-3 to E-5, for assistance (mostly filing) in Reserve Records Branch, HQ, ASAP for 120 days.

Two E-4 to E-6, YN or rate with admin experience, to reconvert microfiche records in Officer Personnel Division, HQ, ASAP for 120 days.

One E-3 to E-6, any rating, experience with word processor desired, to type letters, research records and prepare RPMIS forms in Reserve Admin. Division, HQ, ASAP for 50 days.

One YN, E-4 to E-7, with good typing skills, ability to use word processor desired, in Ocean Engineering Division, HQ, ASAP for 90 days.

One E-4 to E-7, any rating with clerical skills, ability to use word processor desired, in Readiness Planning Branch, HQ, ASAP for 120 days.

One SK or YN, E-5- E-6, to handle accounting data and accounts payable, and compose reports, Mutual Assistance Branch, ASAP for 120 days.

One E-4 to E-5 with clerical skills to log and index marine casualty cases and update records of merchant seamen, Marine Investigation Division, HQ, ASAP for 120 days.

One 0-4 to 0-6, to revise CCGD3 OPLAN (or), New York, NY, ASAP for 120 days.

One 0-1 to 0-3 with writing, editing ability to assist in preparation of legal program planning documents, Office of Chief Council, HQ, ASAP for 60-90 days. Local resident preferred.

Apply for SADT positions by submitting a Request for Active Duty for Training (Form CG-3453) to Commandant (G-RT) via your chain of command.

USCGC Reliance will attend Refresher Training 10-21 Aug. Afloat training opportunities are available for E-4 to E-5 QMs and E-6 to E-7 DCs from 8 to 21 Aug. Apply ASAP.

(G-R-1)

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